

BIOGRAPHY FORM
WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
Indian-Pioneer History Project for Oklahoma

DALBY, PHILIP HUGH - INTERVIEW.

13709

Field Worker's name Jarvis W. Tyner

This report made on (date) April 22, 1938

1. Name Dr. Philip Hugh Dalby

2. Post Office Address. Ramona, Oklahoma

3. Residence address (or location) Three blocks east of Post Office

4. DATE OF BIRTH: Month May Day 15 Year 1853

5. Place of birth Edwards County, Illinois.

6. Name of Father David Dalby Place of birth West Riding, England, Town of Tom.

7. Name of Mother Lucy Businden Place of birth Louisiana.

Other information about mother _____

Father came to the United States in 1836.

Notes or complete narrative by the field worker dealing with the life and story of the person interviewed. Refer to Manual for suggested subjects and questions. Continue on blank sheets if necessary and attach firmly to this form. Number of sheets attached 3.

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Tyner, Jarvis W. - Investigator.
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Interview with Dr. Philip H. Dalby,
Ramona, Oklahoma.

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Early Life.

Philip was the older of two sons of David Dalby. Philip was born in the state of Illinois in Edwards County. His father, David, came to Kansas in the year of 1870 and located at Independence. His father came from Yorkshire, England, from the town of Tom. He left his home in England in 1836. Some of his early life was spent in Louisiana where he met his wife, Lucy Businden.

When just a young man Philip Dalby began his practice in medicine. When he was twenty-one he attended the old Osage Mission in Kansas. He had only an Eighth Grade education when he went to the Osage school. This was also a Catholic school. Father Colithan and Father Panzalone, who was an Italian Count, persuaded his two older sisters to enter that school. None of their family were Catholic but the three of them went to this school. These two Catholic men stopped many times at their home in Independence

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on their way to the Osage Agency. Philip went to this school only six months and entered the Kansas City Medical School. There he graduated and went on east to enter the New York Medical School. He graduated there also and came back to Kansas and started practicing medicine. His first practice was in Jonesburg, where there were just three stores, one drug store, two blacksmith shops, where they built buggies and wagons, and one church. He was married in this same town on May 1, 1888. His office later was at Elgin where he did most of his early work with the Osage Indians.

The first Indian Agency in Indian Territory was located between the forks of Caney River and Hickory Creek. It was known then as the Trumly Agency, because it was on the Batiess Trumly Farm on Hickory Creek. It was moved there from Kansas. Later on it was moved to Pawhuska, where the Government built the Agency on top of a hill that is now the center of Pawhuska. Some of the stone buildings still stand. When they were building, a man happened to be working on these buildings, whom a certain gang didn't like. The gang known as "The Bander Gang" killed this man. The gang was later traced back to a place near their home, on Cherry Creek, in

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Kansas, where they would catch travelers and rob them and kill the unfortunate ones and take them out to a large apple orchard and bury their bodies.

Joe Hard was one of the richest men in the early days. He had several thousand acres of pasture on the Osage Reservation and pastured an enormous herd of cattle all the time. There was another rich Osage called "Osage Round" who had several hundred acres of pasture and pastured thousands of head of cattle all the time. At the time when the railroad company tried to build a new town just north of Elgin, Kansas, they had their track laid and all of their bridges and everything all ready to open up the new town of New Elgin, Kansas. The people started in to destroy the town because they wanted the railroad to come into the town of Elgin. The people burned the bridges and destroyed all the work that had been accomplished. They fought the railroad until the railroad company changed the line and put it through the center of town. At one time Elgin, Kansas, shipped more cattle than any other place in the world. It was the only station in that part of Kansas. There would be great drives to Elgin and more cattle would be shipped in

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and out of there than any other place. The cattle started catching the Texas Fever and many of them died in the stock-yards and near the town. Men would take contracts and charge so much for burying these cattle. The cattle would come into Elgin and would be driven south, even as far as Texas. When shipping time came they would start great drives back toward Elgin and ship them from there.

Dr. Dalby himself was an early cowboy, before he started practicing medicine; he worked with a bunch of cowboys who would take a herd at the present town of Skiatook and drive them to Coffeyville. One time they had as many as 4500 cattle in one bunch. Reuben B. Tyner was the pointer rider. It was a full month's job to herd that bunch of cattle to Coffeyville. They crossed Caney River at Mr. Tyner's house and went on up just a little ways west of Copan, close to the twin mounds there and found a large spring. This was a regular camping place. Finally they got to Coffeyville, Kansas, from where the cattle were shipped on to Kansas City, Kansas.

One of the worst epidemics was during the World War, when so many of the people had the "flu". Many of the cases

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developed into pneumonia. Dr. Dalby drove every day over one hundred miles for two months steady, attending people who were sick. Then there was an awful epidemic of typhoid fever just a little later on.

Dr. P. H. Dalby was present when the Osage Indians signed the release of all their land in Kansas. With the money they got from this land they came to Indian Territory and bought land from the Cherokee Nation. Their eastern boundary line went to the east bank of the Arkansas River. The western line was west of the 96th Meridian. Chief Big Hill Joe signed this agreement for his tribe.

David Dalby, father of Dr. Dalby, bought a tract of land where the present town of Havana, Kansas, is located. They still own this land. His brother lives in Havana, Kansas, now.